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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
Group Art Unit: 2178  
Examiner: Queler, Adam M.

12/30/2003

CONFIRMATION No.: 5514  
Applicant: BULLOCK et al.  
Serial No.: 09/469,904  
Filing Date: 12/22/99  
Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING A  
CUSTOMIZABLE WEB PORTAL  
Attorney File No.: TN170

Box Amendment After Final  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

Dear Sir,

This is responsive to the Final rejection mailed 11/07/2003, affirming the rejection of all claims.

REMARKS

The claims stand finally rejected based upon surmise by the PTO that something admittedly not found in the prior art due to the statement by the PTO that " The Office has provided rationale that such a site (*i.e., the " master website" described and claimed by the applicant*) would be obvious, and the Applicant has merely alleged that the site does not exist, which is not a persuasive argument." (*explanatory parenthetical added for clarity*).

Respectfully, the burden is upon the PTO to show that something which does not exist in the prior art can make any claim obvious, but it has clearly failed to do